



Highlights

ATLAS RELOCATES

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation has consolidated all its operations at its northern Virginia office — see bottom of page for new address and phone/fax numbers.

The closing of the San Francisco office and the relocation of Atlas's Program Director Dr. Alejandro Chafuen were accomplished in November.

"Within weeks it was clear that this is a much better location for our work," commented Atlas President John Blundell.

Lady Fisher is a new trustee of Atlas, and Mr. William O. Sumner is the new Chairman of the Board.

Inside this issue:

Report on the eighth Atlas International Workshop held in October in Herndon, Virginia.

NEW INSTITUTES PUBLISH FIRST PAPERS

The Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research released its first publication: *The Massachusetts Health Plan: The Right Prescription?*, co-authored by Attiat F. Ott and Wayne B. Gray. The study suggests that the Massachusetts Health Plan may inflate the cost of health care services and insurance, not contain it. The publication received extensive media coverage and was praised for its scholarly style. Pioneer's newly established board of academic advisors has attracted leading scholars from universities in Massachusetts: Lee J. Alston, Williams College; Brigitte Berger, Boston University; Linda Datcher-Loury, Tufts University; Nathan Glazer, Harvard University; Laurence S. Moss, Babson College; Attiat F. Ott, Clark University; Harold A. Petersen, Boston College, and Simon Rottenberg, University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

The Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research produced its first publication. *Towards Open Skies and Uncongested Airports: An Opportunity for Hong Kong*, by Kai-sun Kwong. Mr. Kwong, who is a lecturer at the department of economics at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, recommends the implementation of a bilateral open sky policy with a number of countries. This would in turn create incentives for more countries to liberalize with Hong Kong and for them to liberalize among themselves. This well documented and readable book, published by The Chinese University Press, argues that the process of liberalization, "would generate immediate benefits for the travelling public in Hong Kong and from the rest of the world. It would enhance Hong Kong's role as a major hub in Asia and increase the demand for services supplied by many related industries."

BUCHANAN AND STIGLER VISIT AUSTRIA

Nobel prize winning economists George Stigler and James Buchanan both visited Austria in late 1988 at the invitation of the Carl Menger Institut (Vienna). The visits were sponsored by Atlas under the terms of a new grant. Menger Institut's head, Dr. Albert Zlabinger, reports that the visits did a great deal to help put his still young organization on the map.



James Buchanan

WASHINGTON WORKSHOP

Atlas hosted its 8th International Workshop in October, in Herndon, Virginia, near Dulles International Airport. This meeting attracted close to 100 people from 17 US states, 2 Canadian provinces, and 16 other countries. The attendees included a mix of personnel from existing institutes along with people in the process of establishing new groups. These gatherings are tremendously important on many levels: they allow the exchange of ideas, they lead to new contacts, and they send people away recharged or invigorated.

The workshop started with a tribute by Lord Harris (IEA, London) to the memory of Sir Antony Fisher. Mr. Randolph Richardson, president of the Smith-Richardson Foundation, was the keynote dinner speaker. His illuminating address about the Volker Fund and the rise of Austrian economics in the U.S. was a tour de force which gave

proper credit to leading free-market leaders. Mr. Richardson praised those "businessmen who thoroughly understood that ideas have consequences," amongst them he honored William Volker, Pierre Goodrich, Henry Weaver, Jasper Crane, B.E. Hutchinson, Loren Miller, and Sir Antony Fisher. Once the history of the late twentieth century resurgence in free-market is written, we are sure that Mr. Richardson will also occupy a leading place amongst those enlightened individuals who have used their resources and ideas, to foster the growth of a better, freer civilization.

Mr. Richardson also cautioned about those foundations that "often come under staff control with boards of distinguished, but unknowledgeable, luminaries who vote for projects the grantor would have heartily opposed."

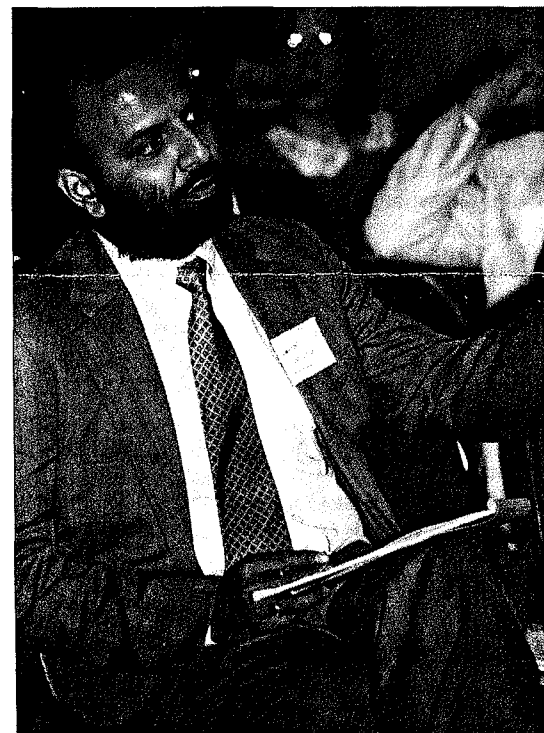
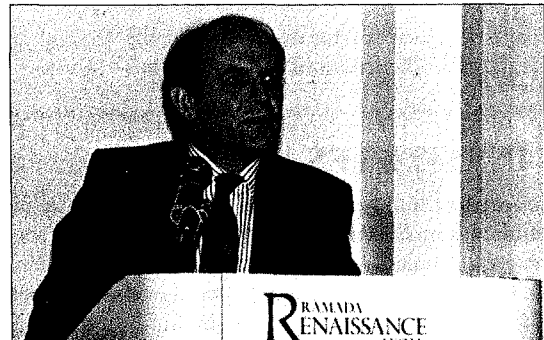


Clockwise from top left:

John Blundell, President of Atlas, and Greg Lindsay of the Centre for Independent Studies (Australia) lead a discussion on the purpose of an institute.

Dr. Charles Murray of the Manhattan Institute was a keynote after dinner speaker. He addressed the subject of his new book in which he contends that the best way to help the poor is to strengthen those intermediary institutions, like family and neighborhood organizations, which enhance self-respect and esteem.

Dr. Shyam Kamath, California State University at Hayward, attended the Washington workshop after returning from an Atlas sponsored field trip to India to find individuals to support and manage a local institute.



Sheldon Richman, Public Affairs Director at IHS, and Sally Pipes, explained the many ways computers can be used to enhance the quality and reduce the cost of institute publications. The session included comparisons and descriptions of the most popular computers, printers and systems. Sheldon Richman is a columnist on computers for the Washington Times, and Sally Pipes, has been involved in computer generated publications and desk-top publishing for the Fraser Institute.

Dr. Charles Murray (Manhattan Institute), author of *In Pursuit: Of Happiness and Good Government*, was another keynote speaker. Murray's famous 1984 book *Losing Ground*, changed many people's thinking about social welfare; in his dinner address, and in his new book, Murray contends that the best way to help the poor is to strengthen those intermediary institutions, like the family and neighborhood organizations, which enhance self-respect and esteem.

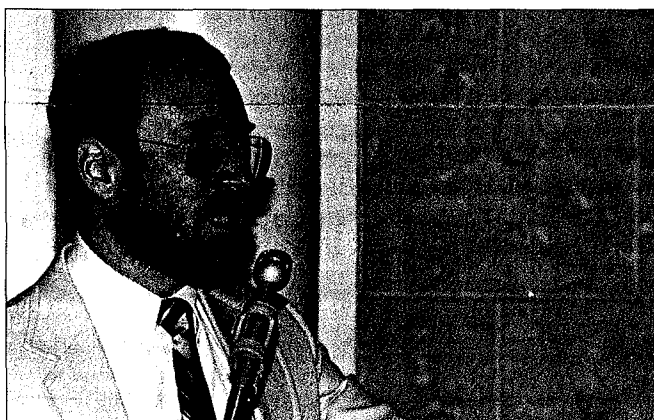
Mr. Robert L. Woodson, president and founder of the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise (NCNE) and chairman of the Council for a Black Economic Agenda,

"Talented, determined men and women can create and execute strategies which insure that good ideas can displace inferior ones in millions of minds."

— *Randolph Richardson*

gave a luncheon address in which he stressed the importance of self-help programs and market-oriented solutions. Robert Kingzett, Director of Public Affairs of the Jeld-Wen Foundation which helped sponsor the event, introduced Mr. Woodson. Mr. Woodson argued that "the federal government has poured hundreds of billions of dollars into employment, housing, public welfare, and economic development to help the poor, but program after program has failed." He added that "we know that the best help is self-help. Thus, through a combination of research and hands-on projects, NCNE is applying market-oriented, self-help strategies, rooted in the spirit of free enterprise, to assist our ongoing effort to empower people." He used the label "poverty pentagon" to describe the vast array of bureaucracies currently engaged in social welfare where "70% of the \$240 billion that we currently spend on programs to aid the poor, does not go to the poor but to those who "serve" the poor."

Dr. Stuart Butler, Director of Domestic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation described this welfare bureaucracy as a "vast industry that is as dependant, if not more, upon the welfare state than the poor are themselves: or those people who will lose their jobs if we solve the problem of poverty." He concluded that "until we deal with this problem of the politics of welfare we will be unable to solve the problem in any country."



Sally Pipes (top) and Sheldon Richman lecture on the ways computers and desktop publishing can be used to enhance the quality and reduce the cost of institute publications.

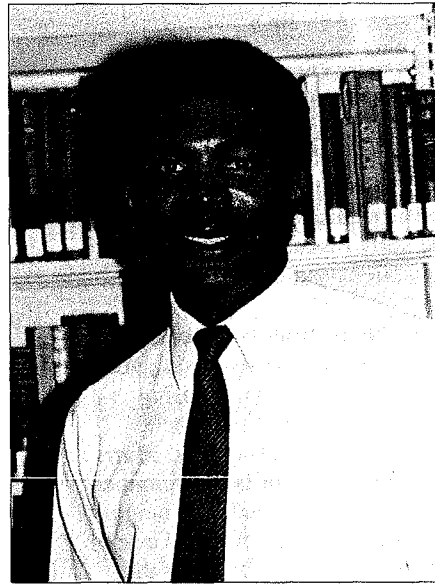


Robert Kriebel introduces after dinner speaker Charles Murray.

ATLAS SPONSORS FIELD TRIPS

Atlas has recently sponsored two field trips to Ghana by Charles Mensah a PhD candidate in George Mason University's Economics Department. Mr. Mensah is laying the groundwork for a new market-oriented institute in West Africa. Incorporation, finding premises, recruiting a board of directors, and seeking financial support were all on his agenda.

Atlas sponsored a field trip to India by Dr. Shyam Kamath (California State University at Hayward), and Mr. Parth Shah (Auburn University). The object of their lengthy trip was to find the right individuals to support manage and run a local institute. Back from India, they both attended our Washington workshop for institute leaders, and Dr. Kamath reported that: "there is a strong need to establish an Atlas type institute in India to disseminate free-market ideas in an economic environment shackled by out-moded dirigiste socialist ideas. The failures of central planning in India make it a ripe and fertile ground to sow and nurture sound economic analysis."



Charles Mensah

ENGLISH VERSION OF *THE OTHER PATH* RELEASED

Harper & Row announced the release of the English version of *The Other Path*, \$22.95, the best-seller book by Dr. Hernando de Soto, (ILD, Peru). The January 16 issue of Fortune magazine devoted three pages to reviewing the book and Forbes followed in its January 23 issue with a two-page feature. The latter concludes: "*The Other Path* is a major work, one destined to change the way the world understands wealth and poverty. Beyond Keynes, beyond Marx. It gets to the heart of the economic paradox of spreading poverty in an increasingly rich world."

Reviewing *The Other Path* for Reason Magazine, Dr. Chafuen wrote that "*The Other Path* demolishes some wide held myths about Latin America, to note: a) that Latin Americans lack an entrepreneurial spirit, b) that the United States is the region's main oppressor, and c) the current economic system in most Latin American countries is predominantly capitalist."

KEYNES VIDEO RECEIVES AWARD

The IEA announced that its video "John Maynard Keynes: Life, Ideas, Legacy" gained a Silver Medal at the prestigious International Film & TV Festival in New York in the Educational Videos category. "We feel this award represents a very significant recognition of the professionalism and high educational content of the video" says John Raybould, the IEA's Marketing Manager. Produced and directed by Nigel Maslin, the film was made by one of the top, independent TV production companies in the UK, Diverse Production. "We are grateful to the Carthage Foundation and the Northcote Parkinson Fund which both contributed towards the costs of the IEA venture" says Mr. Raybould, formerly a founding staff member of the Fraser Institute in Vancouver. "John Maynard Keynes" is available on VHS in the United States from the IEA's distributor, MODERN TALKING PICTURES, INC., 5000 Park Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida, 33709 at \$385, plus postage and packing. Readers of *Highlights* in all other countries interested in buying a copy of the video should write to Stephen Morgan, Guild Sound & Vision, 6 Royce Road, Peterborough, England, PE1 5YB.

RECENT NEWS FROM PACIFIC

Pacific Research Institute's book, *Crisis and Leviathan* by Robert Higgs, has received excellent reviews in scholarly journals including "Reviews in American History" (John Hopkins University Press), "Journal of Economic History" (reviewed by James Buchanan), "Southern Economic Journal" (reviewed by Fred McChesney), and the "Political

Science Quarterly." Pacific also announced an important new addition to its staff: Kim Ohnemus became Director of Program Development. She brings to the task over five years of experience as program officer at the John M. Olin Foundation, New York.